BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND) DOCKET TV-101616
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)
)
Complainant,)
•	
v.)
)
AAA MOVING & STORAGE, INC.) DECLARATION OF SHERI HOYT
(WASHINGTON), AMERICA'S MOVING)
MACHINES, INC., CAN'T STOP)
MOVING, G. J. DANIELS, INC., ERIC	
STEWART D/B/A IRONMAN MOVING)
SERVICES, SWAN'S MOVING &)
STORAGE CO., INC., T & S)
TRANSPORTATION & INSTALLATION,)
INC.)
)
Respondents.)
)
)

SHERI HOYT, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declares as follows:

- 1. I am employed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as a Consumer Program Specialist in the Consumer Protection Section. I have been employed at the Commission for over 18 years, holding various positions. As a Consumer Program Specialist, my responsibilities include conducting investigations regarding the business practices of regulated utility or transportation companies as it pertains to the filing of annual reports and paying of regulatory fees to the Commission. As part of those duties, I investigate household goods carriers that may be operating in violation of Commission statute or rule.
- 2. On February 26, 2010, the Commission mailed 2009 Annual Report forms and 2010 Regulatory Fee packets to household goods carriers permitted with it. A

letter from Executive Director and Secretary David W. Danner instructed companies to file annual reports and pay regulatory fees by May 1, 2010. Further, the letter stated that failure to file the annual report by May 1 could result in a penalty. Those companies wishing to request an extension to file the annual report were asked to do so prior to May 1, providing a reason for the requested extension. A copy of the letter is attached as Attachment A.

- 3. On March 31, 2010, the Commission mailed a notice to all household goods carriers reminding them that 2009 annual reports and 2010 regulatory fees were due by May 1, 2010. A copy of the letter is attached as Attachment B.
- 4. On May 14, 2010, the Commission sent letters to those companies that had not yet filed annual reports. The letter, signed by David Danner, gave an extension to companies to file their reports by May 31, 2010. In the letter, Mr. Danner stated that the Commission would not seek a fine or move to cancel the authority to provide households goods moving services of any company that submitted a report to the Commission postmarked on or before May 31, 2010. A copy of the letter is attached as Attachment C.
- 5. In preparation for the annual revocation proceeding, on September 29, 2010, Financial Services staff provided me a list of all delinquent companies. The list is gathered from the Commission's Annual Report Tracking System (ARTS). As of that date, the Commission had received neither the 2009 annual reports nor the 2010 regulatory fees from the seven companies named in the attached draft complaint.
- 6. In June 2010, as part of an enforcement effort regarding late filed or delinquent 2009 annual reports, the Commission issued penalties to all of the household goods carriers involved here and others. As a result of those penalty assessments, addresses other than on file with the Commission were found for one household goods carrier. That address is included in the Respondent Address Addendum at Attachment D.

DATED this day of November 2010 at Olympia, Washington.

SHERI HOYT

ATTACHMENT A

February 26, 2010

Dear Regulated Company:

Reference: Your 2009 Annual Report and 2010 Regulatory Fees are Due May 1

State law requires you to file an annual report and pay regulatory fees to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

What is required of me?

By May 1, you must:

- Complete and file <u>one</u> paper copy or electronic version of the enclosed 2009 annual report form
- Pay your 2010 regulatory fees

What happens if I do not file a completed annual report by May 1?

If you do not file your company's annual report by May 1 UTC staff will recommend a financial penalty between \$100 and \$800 depending on whether you have filed late in the past. If you have repeatedly filed late, the penalty will be higher. Staff may also recommend revocation of your authority to operate in Washington. Staff will also recommend a \$100 financial penalty if your annual report is incomplete, *i.e.*, not signed or lacking requested information, even if it is filed on time.

What happens if I do not pay my regulatory fees by May 1?

If you do not pay your company's regulatory fee by May 1, you will incur a:

- 2 percent penalty on the amount due; and
- 1 percent monthly interest charge on the unpaid balance.

May I request an extension of time if I am unable to file the annual report by May 1?

Yes, however, you must make the request in writing before May 1 and include a valid reason for why you need an extension. We will notify you whether your request is approved or denied. You will still be liable for penalty and interest payments if you fail to pay your fee by May 1.

May I designate any information that I submit in my annual report as confidential?

Yes, however, you must meet two conditions. You may only request confidential treatment if your company is regulated under Title 80 RCW, that is, if you operate an electric, natural gas, telecommunications, or water company. Transportation companies, regulated under Title 81 RCW, may not request confidential treatment of documents because the authority for such

treatment is found only in RCW 80.04.095. If a Title 81 company files their annual report or fee sheet as confidential, we will not treat it as confidential.

Second, you must follow the requirements for filing confidential documents in WAC 480-07-160. You may find this rule at the UTC Web site, www.utc.wa.gov. Locate "Quick Links" on the right side of the home page then select "2009 annual reports."

Please note: The regulatory fee sheet portion of your report is not a confidential document and will not be accorded confidential treatment under the rule. We will not, however, disclose credit card information you list on the fee sheet.

Where do I mail my completed annual report form and regulatory fee payment?

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

May I file my report electronically?

Yes. You may file your report from the UTC's Web site – www.utc.wa.gov. From the home page, select the "document" tab at the top of the page and then locate and select "electronic filing" from the colored bar on the left side of the page. Alternatively you may go directly to the electronic filing page by entering www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing into your browser.

Where may I obtain an electronic version of the annual report form?

Forms are available on our Web site at www.utc.wa.gov. Locate "Quick Links" on the right side of the home page and then select "2009 annual reports."

May I pay my regulatory fees electronically?

Yes. You may call 360-664-1152 or e-mail <u>rearnes@utc.wa.gov</u> requesting information about payment by Automated Clearing House. A statement of payment should accompany your Annual Report and Regulatory Fee Sheet.

Is there any additional information I should file?

- If you are a gas distribution company, please also file both a paper and electronic copy of your Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form 2.
- If you are an electric company, please also file both a paper and electronic copy of your Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form 1.
- If you are a class 1 Railroad, please also file a copy of your Surface Transportation Board Form R-1 including statistics specific to the state of Washington.

What should I do if my company is no longer operating in Washington?

You may cancel your registration or permit by using the cancellation forms available on our Web site at www.utc.wa.gov. Locate "Quick Links" on the right side of the home page and then select "2009 annual reports." From the annual reports page select the

UTC Annual Reports and Fees February 26, 2010 Page 3

cancellation link to access the forms. Please note that if your company operated in Washington during the 2010 calendar year you must pay regulatory fees and file a closing annual report based on the months of operation during 2009.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about any aspect of your report or regulatory fee, please contact Rae Lynn Carnes at (360) 664-1152 or rearres@utc.wa.gov.

If you need this letter or an annual report form in an alternate format, please call 360-664-1243. The TTY Toll-Free phone number is 1-800-416-5289.

Sincerely,

David W. Danner Secretary

Enclosures

ATTACHMENT B

Reminder! Annual Reports and Regulatory Fees are due May 1, 2010

On February 26, we sent you a 2009 annual report form and 2010 regulatory fee form. This is just a friendly reminder that your company's completed annual report and payment of your regulatory fees are due, postmarked, no later than May 1.

If you already mailed your annual report and regulatory fees, **thank you!** Please disregard this notice. If you have not yet filed, please be sure not to miss this deadline.

You may mail your completed annual report form and regulatory fee payment to:

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

You may also file your report electronically via the UTC's Web filing portal. From the UTC's home page, www.utc.wa.gov, select the "document" tab at the top of the page and then locate and select "electronic filing" from the colored bar on the left side of the page. Alternatively you may go directly to the electronic filing page by entering http://utc.wa.gov/e-filing into your browser.

You may obtain an electronic version of the annual report and regulatory fee sheet at our Web site; locate "Quick Links" on the homepage and then select "2009 annual reports".

If you fail to pay your regulatory fee or file your company's completed annual report, postmarked by May 1, UTC staff will recommend the commission issue a financial penalty. Staff may also recommend that the commission cancel your authority to operate in Washington.

Please don't let either happen. If you have questions about your report or fee or need assistance, please contact me at 360-664-1152 or e-mail me at rearnes@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Rae Lynn Carnes, Revenue Accountant

ATTACHMENT C

May 14, 2010

Attention:

Your annual report to the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) was due by May 1 as required by law. You are now subject to enforcement action by the commission, including financial penalties. This letter tells you what you can do to avoid this. If you have already submitted your annual report, please disregard this notice.

Commission staff mailed you a 2009 annual report form and fee calculation sheet on February 26, 2010. On March 1, 2010, staff mailed a reminder to file your report and pay your fees. Commission records indicate that you have not yet filed the completed report form.

Commission staff will file for enforcement action against your company unless we receive your completed report postmarked no later than May 31. Enforcement action in this matter may include penalties of up to \$100 for each day it is late and cancellation of your authority to provide household goods moving services in Washington. If your annual report was late last year and you received a penalty, the penalty this year will be incrementally higher.

If the commission receives the report postmarked no later than May 31, commission staff will not seek a fine or move to cancel your permit.

Annual report forms are available on the commission's Web site at www.utc.wa.gov. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Sheri Hoyt, Compliance Investigator, at (360) 664-1149 or shoyt@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

David W. Danner Executive Director and Secretary

ATTACHMENT D

Respondent Address Addendum

Can't Stop Moving 6328 Latona Avenue NE Seattle, Washington 98115